

Appln. No.: 09/541,001
Amdt. Dated June 22, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated April 15, 2004

Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this Application is requested.

Claims 1-9 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by Cordery, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,628,249).

Cordery discloses the following in line 61 of column 1 to line 14 of column 2:

"The above object is achieved and the disadvantages of the prior art are overcome in accordance with the subject invention by means of an apparatus and method for producing a mail piece, wherein the apparatus includes a first printer for printing a document and a mail finishing unit for receiving the document from the first printer and inserting the document into an envelope to form a mail piece. The mail finishing unit includes a second printer for printing an address on the envelope prior to insertion of the document into the envelope. The apparatus also includes a controller which is responsive to mail piece data; the mail piece data including first data for defining the document and second data for defining the address to be printed on the document. In accordance with the method of the subject invention the document is printed in the first printer and the envelope is printed with the corresponding address in the second printer prior to insertion of the document into the envelope and the printed document and printed envelope are fed along separate paths to an inserter where the document is inserted into the envelope."

Cordery discloses the following in lines 35-61 of column 6:

"When monitor/Controller 120 detects the presence of envelope data in buffer 118 it transfers the envelope data to envelope print driver 119 which controls envelope printer 66 to print the envelope data on the envelope in accordance with the previously determined attribute data defining the common elements of the envelope address. It should be noted that, since envelope printer 66 includes an integral controller, driver 119 is substantially simpler than driver 124. And, as with print engine driver 124, the control of envelope printer 66 which is preferably an ink jet printer, is conventional and need not be

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described further here for a understanding of the subject invention except to note that buffer 118 is also somewhat larger than normal so that envelope data may also be recovered in the case of a jam.

Mail piece production monitor/controller 120 will then continue to print envelope data from buffer 118 as it is available until drying buffer 68 is loaded; that is until buffer 68 is completely full or an EOJ code is detected and monitor/controller 120 recognizes that the last envelope is in drying buffer 68. Then, when drying buffer 68 is loaded monitor/controller 120 signals page buffer 122 to release the next page to engine driver 124, and when document printer engine 60 is ready signals driver 124 to print the page. If multiple pages of documents are to be included in a mail piece, as defined by the mail piece attributes generated at 116, monitor/controller 120 continues to release pages from buffer 122 until all pages for a mail piece are printed."

Cordery does not disclose or anticipate steps b(i), b(ii), e and f of claim 1, as amended, and those claims dependent thereon, namely, if said print stream comprises text data then tagging said text data and sending said tagged text data to a user mode module for further parsing; or if said print stream does not comprise text data then sending said print stream to a direct data injection step for a document printer; creating an envelope printer device context from the document driver and transmitting said envelope data set to an envelope printer driver for creating an envelope printer device language file; and reading said printer device language and then injecting said envelope data set into said print stream so that the envelope data may be transmitted to the envelope printer and the document data to the document printer.

A document driver is used by Applicants to print to an envelope driver using a device context. The foregoing enables a single print stream to be transmitted to a document printer. This enables one to drive two printers with a single I/O link.

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In view of the above, claims 1-10 are patentable. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned at the telephone number noted below.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald Reichman
Reg. No. 26,796
Attorney of Record
Telephone (203) 924-3854

PITNEY BOWES INC.
Intellectual Property and
Technology Law Department
35 Waterview Drive
P.O. Box 3000
Shelton, CT 06484-8000